

Baking Powder

Absolutely Pure

A cream of tartar baking powder. Highest of all in leavening strength—*Largest United States Government Patent Food Report.*

Royal Baking Powder Co.,
100 Wall St., N. Y. C.

How a Deaf and Loving Woman, Tried a Mother's Patience.

In no respect are the friends outside the sanctuary of home crueler than in acting upon the conviction that what Mrs. Stove defines as terms of unfriendly intimacy—with as justifies them in paroling out our time to suit their convenience and pleasure. Women are most unreasonably in this species of torture. Men have been slaves to business for so many centuries that the masculine guest neighbor, albeit a favorite crony, has a glimmering appreciation of the fact that his associates must have time in which to earn a living. The cruellest of friends is the woman who does nothing in particular and at no particular time and is so fond of you, who have a specific occupation and set hours for carrying it on, that she cannot be happy away from you and finds the day sorrowful which has not been salted by a comfortable talk between you and herself.

A very field of affectionate barbarity was a rich and idle woman who chose as her bosom friend the busy wife of a city clergyman and the mother of five children. Of these children she was also the governess until the boys were ready for the college preparatory school and sent her three girls from the family schoolroom to Smith and Vassar. She judged rightly that she would lay the foundation rudiments of thorough scholarship more conscientiously than hired instructors and enjoyed the noble task.

Her husband's parishioners were cognizant of her expressed desire that that part of the day lying between 9 and 10 o'clock should be devoted to her pupils, and, to the credit of those who did not aspire to the honor of such intimacy at the rectory as they would warrant reversal of household arrangements, that she stated that her eccentricity in this regard was generally respected.

The wealthiest vestryman's wife, by virtue of her peculiar attachment to the industrious housemother, spurned regulations not of her own making and declared her independence of time and place. The rectory's wife loved her for her many excellent qualities and valued her answering esteem. I think, nevertheless, that Mephistopheles would have been a more welcome apparition than the smiling visage that presented itself twice or thrice each week at the study door with the coaxing apology:

"I know you can't bear morning calls, but I was actually fainting for a glimpse of you. I'll just sit over here in the corner with my fancy work and never slip a syllable—just feast my eyes and ears. The children don't mind the presence of mamma's dearest friend."

The children did mind, and mamma more than they, an intruder who distracted eyes and thoughts and embarrassed recitations none the less for the frequency of the visitation. A gravel stone in the shoe is one of the minor ills of the daily walk to which the flesh is slow to become accustomed. A common ailment which could have been denied at the outer entrance, or had she reached the parietals could have been bowed out into the drawing room. An unknown friend grappled with the sufferer at a fatally short distance.—*Marion Harland in Harper's Bazar.*

Prior as a Diplomat.

Prior had several qualifications for diplomatic work. Though he must sometimes have been hampered by his humble origin, he never failed to maintain the dignity of his official position. His special knowledge of commerce, his readiness of humor, his fluency in French, his familiarity with Horace (a useful accomplishment in the Augustan age) and even "ce visage de bois," as Bolognecro called it, must often have been of service to him. But Prior's life when he had the honor of representing Queen Anne at the French court was not happy. His letters during that period show that he was uneasy about the prospects of his party and felt his own position to be insecure.

In those days, moreover, the British government was not a good paymaster; generals had sometimes to find money from their own pockets to pay their soldiers, and ambassadors' salaries were often in error. When the crash came, Prior found himself in an unfortunate plight. He was looked coldly on both by the new administration and by his own party. It was stated that he had made a bad bargain with the French king, and that his indiscretion during the siege of Collingbroke's ill-fated fight. For this malicious report there is, so far as we know, no trustworthy foundation.

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Order—No Ammonia; No Alkali.